Site visits in Lund and Malmö

BInUCom May 23-27: Site visits in Lund and thematic workshop on Risk Reduction and Adaptation Planning

Tuesday May 24 – visit in Lund city

Brunnhög: Sustainable settlement development and social integration in Northeast Lund

In the City of Lund a new city district is being developed: Lund Northeast/Brunnhög. The new city district will contain two world-class research facilities, a new mixed city neighbourhood, a Science Village and a new large scale recreation area – where today there is just a field. The vision for Lund Northeast is made up of three main components: world-leading research facilities, a European model for sustainable development and an international meeting point for science, culture and recreation.

After a lecture at LUCSUS by Eva Rydén Dalman from Lund municipality, Project Manager of Lund NorthEast, we headed out to see the project site in the field. See http://www.lund.se/en/brunnhog/

Photos: Guided walk through the future Brunnhög development area.
Wednesday May 25 – visit to Malmö city

The Eco-City Augustenborg: Sustainable settlement development and social integration of marginal groups

In the morning we visited the Augustenborg Eco-City and the Scandinavian Greenroof Institute (SGI). Augustenborg was built as a modern residential area in the 1950’s, but by the 1970’s it fell into decline and was affected by recurrent floods and related damp. Many residents moved out and those who stayed were increasingly marginalised. In the late 1990s, Malmö municipality started the work with the Augustenborg Eco-City, where open stormwater structures and nature-based solutions for flood risk reduction were implemented in close dialog with residents. After a lecture at the Scandinavian Greenroof Institute about the area’s development history and the benefits of green measures for climate change adaptation, we were guided around the Botanical Roof Garden and the residential area of Augustenborg. See http://greenroof.se/en/eco-city-augustenborg/

Photos: John Block from SGI showcases different plant species and materials used for green roofs (left) and measures for ecosystem-based flood prevention in residential areas (right)

Yalla Trappan: A social enterprise for immigrants who lack access to the formal labour market

We had arranged to have lunch at the Yalla Trappan restaurant in the low-income area of Rosengård, Malmö, where we met with project participants and the chairwoman Christina Merker-Siesjö. Yalla Trappan is a social enterprise and women’s cooperative that aims to provide employment opportunities and increased financial independence for immigrant women who lack formal work experience and education (and thus access to the formal labour market) – by drawing on their existing skills. Yalla Trappan functions according to a non-profit business model that supports integration. In addition to the lunch restaurant, it offers catering, cleaning and seamstress services. Currently, it employs and pays salaries to 40 Rosengård-based women who mainly originate from the Middle East or the Balkan countries. The project continuously trains new women for employment and also offers lessons in the Swedish language. See also: http://www.yallatrappan.se/yalla-trappan/about-yalla-trappan-19619446

B_IN_U.COM
Rosengård: Increasing social, environmental and economic sustainability through urban planning

We stayed in the area of Rosengård in the afternoon, to enjoy a lecture and a guided walk around the area by Lena Eriksson from the Environment Department at Malmö municipality. After a general introduction to the housing system in Sweden, she presented the various challenges that the low-income area Rosengård is facing – including segregation, high unemployment and reliance on social support, and an unproportionately negative media image – along with some of the approaches by the municipality to address such challenges. See also: http://malmo.se/Nice-to-know-about-Malmo/Sustainable-Malmo-/Sustainable-City-Development-2016/Sustainable-City-Development/Sustainable-Rosengard.html

Photos: The Yalla Trappan social enterprise and women’s cooperative in Rosengård

Photos: Workshop participants at ‘Rosens Röda Matta’, an activity space designed with and for teenage girls in the low-income area of Rosengård (Left). Lena från Malmö municipality shows us Örtagårdstorget in Rosengård, a new square constructed with input from local residents and shop owners (Right).
Thursday May 26 – evening student competition in Lund

Incorporating Social Diversity into Brunnshög: Challenge/Workshop

On Thursday evening we attended an urban planning competition for sustainability students at Lund Municipal Hall.

The competition focused on the area of Brunnshög (see Tuesday May 24) and was a joint effort between Lund municipality and students from the LUMES (Lund University International Master’s Program in Environmental Studies and Sustainability Science), DRMCCA (Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change Adaptation), and SUDES (Sustainable Urban Design) Master’s Programmes. The purpose was to provide the opportunity for students to rub shoulders with professionals in the planning community, while providing planning staff with fresh ideas and creative minds. The students participating in the competition were assigned to multi-disciplinary teams and were given 3 hours to draft a proposal and presentation answering the question:

« How can we ensure that Lund’s newest neighbourhood is a place rich in social diversity, where people from all backgrounds can mingle and contribute to the vibrancy of the community? »

Each team pitched their proposal to the attendees, after which an elimination selection process (we were also allowed to vote 😊) led to the selection of the winning proposal.

Photo: Participants and winners in the student competition ‘Incorporating Social Diversity into Brunnshög: Challenge/Workshop’